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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-105

Dimethenamid

(publié aussi en français)

14 November 2013

This document is published by the Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency. For further information, please contact:

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ISSN: 1925-0835 (print)
1925-0843 (online)

Catalogue number: H113-24/2013-105E (print version)
H113-24/2013-105E-PDF (PDF version)

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the registration of Outlook, containing technical grade dimethenamid-p, for use as a pre-emergence application on potatoes is acceptable.

The evaluation of this dimethenamid-p application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions, and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limits (MRL) on the corresponding commodity. An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Residues of the resolved isomer dimethenamid-p are covered by MRLs established for dimethenamid, the unresolved isomeric mixture. Consultation on the proposed MRLs for dimethenamid is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRLs can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs, to be added to the MRLs already established for dimethenamid, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Dimethenamid.

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Dimethenamid	2-chloro-*N*-(2,4-dimethyl-3-thienyl)-*N*-(2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)acetamide	0.01	Tuberous and Corm Vegetables (Crop Subgroup 1C)

ppm = parts per million

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

The MRLs proposed for dimethenamid in Canada are the same as the corresponding American tolerances (on Crop Subgroup 1C) as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for dimethenamid in Canada with corresponding Codex MRLs.[1] A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Arracacha	0.01	Not established
Arrowroot	0.01	Not established
Chinese artichokes	0.01	Not established
Jerusalem artichokes	0.01	Not established
Edible canna	0.01	Not established
Cassava roots	0.01	Not established
Chayote roots	0.01	Not established
Chufa	0.01	Not established
Taro corms	0.01	Not established
Ginger roots	0.01	Not established
Lerens	0.01	Not established
Tanier corms	0.01	Not established
Turmeric roots	0.01	Not established
Yam bean roots	0.01	Not established
True yam tubers	0.01	Not established

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for dimethenamid up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRLs

Residue data from supervised residue trials conducted in the United States were submitted to support the domestic use of Outlook Herbicide on potatoes. Dimethenamid-p was applied at exaggerated rates to potatoes, which were harvested according to label directions. In addition, processing data on treated potatoes were assessed to determine the potential for concentration of residues of dimethenamid-p into processed commodities.

Maximum Residue Limits

The recommendation for MRLs for dimethenamid was based on the submitted field trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRLs for Tuberous and Corm Vegetables (Crop Subgroup 1C).

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial and Processing Data Used to Support Maximum Residue Limits

Commodity	Application Timing/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)	PHI (days)	Residues (ppm)		Experimental Processing Factor
			Min	Max	
Potatoes	Preplant incorporated/ 0.9–1.0 kg a.i./ha	60–135	<0.01	<0.01	No concentration observed in processed commodities
	Pre-emergence/ 0.9–1.0 kg a.i./ha	60–128	<0.01	<0.01	
	Postemergence/ 1.4 kg a.i./ha	39–40	<0.01	<0.01	

PHI = preharvest interval; ppm = parts per million

Following the review of all available data, MRLs of 0.01 ppm are recommended to cover residues of dimethenamid in commodities of Tuberous and Corm Vegetables (Crop Subgroup 1C). Residues of dimethenamid-p in these commodities at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.